MISCEL-LANEOUS

763. The starting of canteens both at the Central Press, Bangalore, and the Branch Press, Mysore, under the guidance of the Central Board for a period of six months was sanctioned, subject to the condition that they should be managed on a self-sufficient basis afterwards.

(v) Meteorology.

764. The Department of Meteorology was administered on an agency basis on behalf of the Government of India from 1st April to end of 31st December 1950 under the scheme for federal financial integration and was taken over by the Centre from 1st January 1951 with the exception of the non-federal items of the Department which were transferred to the Revenue Department with effect from 1st January 1951. These non-federal items relate solely to raingauge stations and publication of rainfall statistics.

(vi) Horticulture and Public Gardens.

765. The Department of Horticulture continued its activities connected with the introduction, acclimatisation and propagation of plants of economic and ornamental value A large collection of the most interesting ornamental and economically important plants were received from the various nurseries and botanical institutions from all over the world.

766. A number of ornamental and economic plants were propagated in the nursery for tree-planting drive.

767. Seeds and pots of both ornamental and economically important plants consisting of trees, shrubs and herbs were collected for sale and departmental supply. Some of the important varieties of seeds were also offered in exchange to some botanical and horticultural institutions both in and abroad. Botanical specimens were supplied to Colleges for examination and collection purposes. The control of insect pests and diseases attacking the horticultural crops continued. The spraying staff visited all the Government Horticultural farms and gardens, private orchards and gardens.

Lalbagh.

768. The Lalbagh maintained its popularity and high reputation as a centre of horticultural interest and scientific and technical utility. The general public availed themselves of the gardens for pleasure and recreations, while the